

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 26, 2007. Claims 6 to 19, 26 to 29, 42 to 45, 47, 53 to 66, 73 to 76, 89, 91, 92, 94 and 95 are pending in the application, with Claims 1 to 5, 20 to 25, 30 to 41, 46, 48 to 52, 67 to 72, 77 to 88, 90, 93 and 97 to 102 having been cancelled. Claims 6, 42, 47, 53, 89, 91, 94 and 95, all of which are independent, have been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 6 to 19, 26 to 29, 42 to 45, 47, 53 to 66, 74 to 76, 89, 91, 92, 94, and 95 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claims. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 73 should have also been indicated to include allowable subject matter, since Claim 73 depends from Claim 53.

In keeping with the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 6, 42, 47, 53, 89, 91, 94 and 95, Applicants have rewritten 6, 42, 47, 53, 89, 91, 94 and 95 into independent form and to include the substance of their respective base claims, which have been cancelled. Consequently, independent Claims 6, 42, 47, 53, 89, 91, 94 and 95 as amended, together with their dependent claims, are seen to be in condition for allowance.

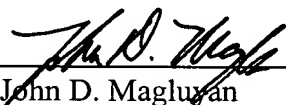
Claims 1 to 5, 21 to 25, 30 to 32, 37 to 39, 48 to 52, 68 to 73, 77 to 79, 84 to 86, 90, 97, 99 and 101 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,737,489 (Chou) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,223,158 (Goldberg); Claims 20, 35, 36, 46, 67, 82, 83, 93, 98, 100 and 102 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Chou in view of Goldberg and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,662,180 (Aref); Claims 33, 34, 80 and

81 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Chou in view of Goldberg and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,333,275 (Wheatley); and Claims 40, 41, 87 and 88 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Chou in view of Goldberg and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,624,009 (Glenn). Claims 1 to 5, 20 to 25, 30 to 41, 46, 48 to 52, 67 to 72, 77 to 88, 90, 93 and 97 to 102 have been cancelled, and Claims 6, 42, 47, 53, 89, 91, 94 and 95 have been amended as noted above. The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of the rejections, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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